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The selection of title ("The *Fixed* Law of Patents") suggests the question how any body of law can be called "fixed" which is authoritatively pronounced by nine coördinate and independent appellate courts. Patents are nation-wide in their nature and application. The Circuit Courts of Appeals are territorially limited in their jurisdiction; and yet as between parties properly before them their findings are conclusive wherever throughout the nation those parties go. That a given patent may in the eyes of the law mean one thing in one circuit and another thing in another circuit,—may mean one thing as between the patentee and A and another thing as between the patentee and B,—may perchance be valid in the one case and invalid, that is to say, no patent at all, in the other case,—would seem impossible, if it were not the fact. Our author is alive to this situation, saying (p. 93) in criticising *Kessler vs. Eldred*, 206 U. S. 285:

"It is believed that nothing short of Congressional action amending the Circuit Court of Appeals Act, can give relief from the utter chaos which now exists."

If the suggestion were made for change of title to "The *Mixed* Law of Patents" in place of "The *Fixed* Law of Patents," it would be only to startle attention to this strange and anomalous situation (which the Supreme Court does not relieve) and to help concentrate effort on Congress to give relief, for example, by passing the most excellent bill of the American Bar Association for a national Court of Patent Appeals, a bill which that Association has advocated for the last ten years.

Mr. Macomber's book is well arranged and well printed, and it has already become necessary to the profession, and is, within the limits of its scope, invaluable to the student of patent law. It is the most important contribution that has been made in years to the systematic presentation of the actual working rules and principles of the patent law as pronounced in appellate cases, whether those rules and principles be regarded as in flux or in code, as fixed or mixed.

Wm. Houston Kenyon.

CORPORATION FORMS AND PRECEDENTS. By WILLIAM MEADE FLETCHER. Chicago: CALLAGHAN & Co. 1913. pp. xli, 2122.

The author offers his work to lawyers and to persons interested in corporations "as a complete collection of practical corporation forms and precedents." He has succeeded admirably. The collection of forms is both exhaustive and accurate. It is supplemented by frequent foot-notes referring to judicial decisions where the courts have passed upon or construed the forms. The chapters on "Voting Trusts," "Merger and Consolidation," and "Reorganization" are especially valuable. But the author does not content himself with simply presenting the stock forms used in all the states. He also has collected, with commendable industry, sets of forms for each of the different states. The reviewer carefully examined the forms submitted for Illinois, New Jersey, and New York, and found them not only reliable but accompanied by most serviceable lists of recent cases.

The index is a most important feature in a work of this kind. It is not too much to say that the index to this collection is sufficiently minute to satisfy any ordinary need. It is, moreover, exhaustive in its cross-references.

The make-up and appearance of the book are excellent. It is printed on very thin paper in clear legible type, and though it contains considerably over two thousand pages it is only two and one-half inches in thickness. This feature will be appreciated in law offices whose overburdened shelves have long been groaning. In all respects, the work is ably conceived and executed.

I. Maurice Wormser.

ENACTMENTS IN PARLIAMENT SPECIALLY CONCERNING THE UNIVERSITIES OF OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE, THE COLLEGES AND HALLS THEREIN, AND THE COLLEGES OF WINCHESTER, ETON, AND WESTMINSTER. Edited by LIONEL LANCELOT SHADWELL, M. A., of New College, Oxford. 4 Vols. Oxford: CLARENDON PRESS. 1912. pp. xxxix, 360; 407; 420; 384.

Dr. Griffith's well-known edition of "Enactments in Parliament specially concerning the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge" includes only enactments which were in force in the year 1869. Some twelve or thirteen years ago this edition was nearly exhausted; and Mr. Shadwell's collection was then begun at the request of the Delegates of the Clarendon Press, with which in its production the Oxford Historical Society has been associated. The present collection covers a much wider field than that embraced in Griffith's edition; for in it are included essentially all the enactments at present or at any previous time in force affecting the two Universities and their Colleges, as well as legislation respecting the Colleges of Winchester, Eton and Westminster, which in certain respects have been quite closely associated with the Colleges of the Universities. The editor has carefully drawn attention, both in the table of contents and in foot-notes, to enactments that have been repeated or have ceased to be in force, either wholly or so far as concerns the Universities and Colleges. We fully appreciate the editor's point of view in making an exception in the case of the repeals by Statute Law Revision Acts (see Vol. 1, c. xi), but must nevertheless regret that the reader has not been put on his guard as to all enactments affected by these Acts.

The work contains a good many valuable foot-notes; but we are surprised at the small number of cases cited (see Vol. 1, p. xxxvii). The index supplements the table of contents in assisting the reader to make his way through the mass of miscellaneous enactments contained in the four volumes. Because the index contains no reference to "students" and "studies" (except s. v. Christ Church) we are not to assume that students and studies have not been important features of the life at the Universities and Colleges! The editor's preface is interesting, but all too short to satisfy the inquiring reader (Vol. 1, pp. iii-iv). It is a pity that the editor has not always given us the text of enactments: a summary will not take its place. However, to have given the full text of all the enactments would have greatly increased the bulk of the work, and readers must, therefore, content themselves at places with the editor's indication as to the subject matter of the statutes. On the whole, the editor's work has been done very carefully and successfully. He is to be congratulated upon the completion of an arduous undertaking.

The enactments have been placed in chronological order. Beginning with the statute 27 Edward III, c. 13, on Apparel and concluding with the Copyright Act, 1911, the collection embraces the legislation of nearly seven centuries. The diversity of topics covered by the enactments is remarkable. We may read of wine licenses and tippling in